

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 837

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to commend Anita King for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Anita King, a longtime dedicated volunteer for the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (ETHRA), is one such estimable person; she is taking a much-deserved retirement in conjunction with her husband, Earle, a thirty-year employee of the agency; and

WHEREAS, Anita and Earle King began volunteering for ETHRA's Ombudsman Program while he was still working in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, when Mr. King was hired as a volunteer recruiter and trainer by ETHRA in 1991, Anita King continued volunteering with the agency and has now worked alongside her husband for thirty years, donating over 25,000 hours to ETHRA; and

WHEREAS, Anita King is originally from Germany and grew up there during World War II; when she was young, her mother once hid three American paratroopers from the Nazis until she could help them cross the border into France and thus ensure their safety; and

WHEREAS, the Kings met in Germany in 1952, while Mr. King was stationed there for military service; they entered the holy bonds of matrimony in 1954 and stayed with one of the grateful American paratroopers on their honeymoon; and

WHEREAS, the Kings then moved to Harriman, where they have lived in the same house ever since, and continue to serve their community in many roles; and

WHEREAS, Anita and Earle King have recruited and trained thousands of volunteers and visited thousands of elderly clients over the past thirty years; and

WHEREAS, they tirelessly visit elderly clients who receive services through the East Tennessee Public Guardianship Office in sixteen counties, attending care plan meetings and physician visits with clients to make certain that all their needs are addressed and met and working in concert with the District Public Guardian and other staff within the department and the agency; and

WHEREAS, the Kings comfort and enliven their elderly clients and often go beyond the call of duty to fulfill their needs; their regular presence assures the clients that someone cares about them; and

WHEREAS, Anita King is especially gifted at locating reading materials, clothing, writing tools, and music for clients who do not have the means to purchase such items for themselves; and

WHEREAS, Anita King has given thirty years of her life to protecting the most vulnerable adults in our communities, and she truly epitomizes the volunteer spirit of the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Anita King for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as a volunteer with the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency and extend to her our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.